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Message from the President

Greetings members and friends,

Spring is springing and everyone's spirits are rising. Some of our members signed up for the BSCM class aren't as happy as they could be. It was necessary to postpone the class temporarily to allow the instructor to take care of a medical problem.

On the positive side, this should provide additional time for those of you sitting on the fence to jump down and take a stand. Go ahead and sign up for the class. This will be a good one, as the instructor will be well prepared due to his recent hiatus from work and extra study time.

Please don't let this opportunity pass. Go to our East Texas web site and sign up today. We should be starting in late March or early April.

Remember the old Chinese proverb: "The journey of a thousand miles begins with but a single step".

Regards,
Larry Pascoe, CPIM, C.P.M
President East Texas Chapter

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APICS brings new dimension to your career through its many educational programs, including its industry-essential certifications. Join APICS today!

Chapter Events

Norris Cylinder Plant Tour

Please join us March 17, 2009. Norris Cylinder is hosting a plant tour of their facilities.

Located in Longview, Texas, Norris Cylinder is recognized for setting the standard in high pressure and acetylene cylinders. In addition to meeting traditional U.S. Department of Transportation and Transport Canada specifications, Norris has also achieved an impressive array of international specifications.

Customers include large multinational industrial gas companies such as Airgas, Air Liquide, Air Products, BOC, Linde and Praxair to the Independent Gas and Welding Supply Distributor, Norris has been the benchmark in defining the finest quality Gas containment products.

The tour begins at 6:30, and we will meet at the flag pole. Please wear closed toe shoes and bring safety glasses and ear plugs for the tour as the shop will be running during the tour. If you don't have safety glasses and earplugs, these will be provided.

Register on the website, or contact any board member to signup. Maps are available on the website.

[Register Now!](#)

APICS Award Program

APICS Chapter Benchmarking and Reporting (C-BAR) awards program recognizes chapters that have demonstrated exemplary standards and provided outstanding member services and professional development opportunities to its members and customers.



Education

CPIM

Certification for Production and Inventory Management classes are slated to begin in March, 2009. CPIM Modules include:

Basics of Supply Chain Management
Master Planning of Resources
Detailed Scheduling and Planning
Execution and Control of Operations
Strategic Management of Resources

Module 1: Basics of Supply Chain Management covers the basic concepts in managing the flow of materials in the supply chain. In BSCM, you get a complete overview of material flow, from internal and external suppliers to and from your organization. We will meet twice-a-week for 5 weeks. Topics include:

Elements of the Supply Chain
Just-in-Time (JIT)
Total Quality Management (TQM)
Manufacturing Resources Planning (MRP II)
Demand Planning
Capacity Management

Participant guide is available at the APICS Bookstore
<http://www.apics.org/Bookstore/>. Stock #09122V30. Please note this module requires 3.0 version (the latest and greatest.)

For more information, contact Larry Pascoe at president@apicseasttexas.org.

Reserve your spot in class so sign up now!

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Learn Lean Language

Many of our lean manufacturing concepts were developed within the Toyota Production System. Therefore our lean language has retained many of the original Japanese words. Here are definitions of some basic terms:

- Kaizen—continuous improvement. Kaizen is the central principle of all lean initiatives; it is the all-encompassing ideal that you are on a lean journey and that you should continually strive for improvement.
- Muda—the Japanese term for waste. A lean enterprise does all it can to eliminate muda in every form.
- Kanban - The Japanese word kanban, loosely translated, means card or sign. Kanban is a lean method of production using a card or signal (even colored golf balls) to initiate a pull order to withdraw parts from feeding operations or suppliers.
- Push vs. pull system—a push system uses a forecast or a suggested inventory level to push products through the manufacturing process. These types of systems inevitably lead to a buildup of inventory and muda in the system. A pull system is simply based upon customer demand. When a customer places an order, the product is pulled through the process.
- Sensei—the Japanese term for a teacher. A sensei, teacher or implementer, is key at every level to keep personnel on the road to continuous improvement, to make kaizen a part of daily activities.